MINUTES

—OF THE—

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Mud Creek Baptist Association

—HELD WITH—

Mud Creek Church, Jefferson Co.,

October. 15th to 17th, 1885.

OFFICERS:

Rev. J. I. GILBERT,.....Moderator
J. M. HYCHE,.....Clerk

The next Session will be held with Mount Ida Church, commencing on Saturday before the Third Sabbath in October 1886.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA:
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1885

MINUTES.

THURSDAY OCT. 15th, 1885.

The Fourteenth Annual Session of the Mud Creek Baptist Association met with Mud Creek Church on this day at 11 o'clock a. m. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder C. F. Allman. Subject: The Church. Concluded by Elder J. N. McFall, after which the Association adjourned for dinner. The delegates assembled in the Meeting house in the afternoon; J. I. Gilbert, Moderator. Hymn No. 2, Baptist Psalmody was sung; prayer offered by Rev. T. A. Norwood. The Roll of the Churches was then called and the delegates from the churches came forward, bearing their Letters of Representation and laid them on the table. Bros. T. A. Wilkey and T. M. Parsons were invited to read the letters. The names of the churches and delegates will be found in the Statistical Table on last page. An election by ballot was held for Moderator and Clerk, which resulted in the choice of Rev. J. I. Gilbert, Moderator, and J. M. Hyche, Clerk.

By motion the regular order of business was dispensed with and opening of the door for the reception of churches wishing to accociate with this body, to be the first order of business.

Petitionary letters from churches unassociated, was called for. Received from Mount Ida church and Pleasant Ridge, newly constituted churches: Also from Rock creek church, letter of dismission from the Canaan Association, wishing to associate with us. On motion, they were received and the right hand of fellowship extended to the delegates and then welcomed to seats with us.

Appointed Committee on Preaching as follows: W. A. Murry, W. P. Salter, J. H. Knight, and Deacons of the church. Committe on Preaching reported preaching at candle light by Revs. J. M. Hyche and P. A. Wilkey.

On motion, the Association adjourned till Friday morning 9 o'clock.

FRIDAY MORNING 9 A. M.

The delegates assembled; Hymn No. 409 was sung, Prayer offered by Licentiate G. B. Vines.

Received correspondence as follows:

Harmony.—Elder W. W. Martin, Brothers M. J. Parsons, A. C. Riley with letter and minutes.

Returned correspondence:

North River.—J. M. Knight, Andy Gilbert, B. B. Patton, Elder A. White, Elder J. I. Gilbert.

Canaan.—A. J. Batson, J. M. Hyche, A. J. F. Cummins, Elder T. A. Norwood.

Harmony.—Elder T. A. Norwood, Elder J. A. Markham, Brothers S. A. Parsons, T. M. Parsons.

Tuscaloosa.—Elder T. A. Norwood, A. J. Batson, P. A. Wilkey, J. M. Hyche, Elder J. I. Gilbert.

The following Committees appointed:

Documents.—A. White, W, A. Murry and P. A. Wilkey.

Nominations.—J. M. Knight, Andy Gilbert and R. F. Vines.

Finance.—A. J. Batson, W. P. Salter, Elisha Herring.

Home Mission.—Elder A. White, P. A. Wilkey, J. R. Reeves.

Temperance.—S. A. Parson, J. A. Markham, J. R. Snow.

Sabbath-schools.—S. A. Parsons, H. A. Roberds, B. F. Wilkey.

Education.—H. P. Hudson, William Vines, N. S. Meeks, William Gilbert, J. M. Knight.

Committee on Devotion report preaching at 11 o'clock, a. m., By Elder J. N. McFalls and G. B. Vines.

On motion, the Association adjourned until 1 o'clock p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

The delegates assembled in the Meeting house at 1 o'clock. Hymn No. 306 was sung; prayer offered by P. A. Wilkey.

The Constitution and Rules of Decorum were read.

The letter from Blue Creek Church was read and the delegates received.

Received the report of the Committee on Documents.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

We, your Committee on Documents, report that we have carefully examined all documents committed to our charge, and find a request from Pleasant Grove Church, Tuscaloosa county, also from Mount Ida Church for the next session of this body. Also, we find a query from Friendship Church which we refer to this body for their consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

A. WHITE, Chairman.

On motion, the query was laid on the table.

On motion, the query was reconsidered for the purpose of saying to the sister church that the Committee on Home Missions answers their query.

Received and adopted the report of the Committee on Nominations.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS.

We, your Committee on Nominations, beg leave to report that we find a request from Pleasant Grove Church, also from Mount Ida Church for the next session of this body. We recommend that the next session of this body meet with Mount Ida Church, Walker county. Elder J. I. Gilbert to preach the Introductory sermon, Elder J. A. Markham, alternate. Elder T. A. Norwood to preach the Missionary sermon, Sunday at 11 o'clock, Elder A. White, alternate. J. M. KNIGHT, Chairman.

Received and adopted the report of the Committee on Sabbath-schools, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH-SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to report as follows: We believe that the Sabbath School work is a work that belongs to the peopls of God. Their duty is to take their neighbors and their neighbors' children and their own, and go hand in hand to the church or place of worship, then read the word of God, laboring in

love for instruction about the plan of salvation, and praying for the Spirit's power to have its proper and right effect on the minds of the young and rising generation, because God has commanded us to raise our children in the fear and admonition of the Lord. Dear brethren, we know of no better way in which we could bring them to God. Brethren, our children will not become interested in that which does not interest us. As we only have monthly meetings, we should engage the minds of the young on the Lord's day in Bible study. If we want our children to become interested we should first become interested ourselves in reading the Word of God, and then read and talk with them about the scriptural way of salvation. As in last years's report, it would be a sad day if all were to conclude that they had studied the Scriptures enough. We feel that discipline is fast leaving the pale of the church, because the church government is fast passing out of the hands of the aged of the land, who studied the Scriptures, and into the hands of young men. Now again, to become better informed, we will have to engage in studying the Scriptures on the Lord's day with our children. We believe that literature of no kind should be admitted in Sabbath study until the minds of the young have been sufficiently enlightened to read the Scriptures.

Sabbath-schools, when properly conducted, are the means of infusing Scriptural knowledge, which is light, and this light will moralize the Bible, the Sabbath-school text book, which properly studied often proves to be the means of leading many to the Rock of our salvation, Jesus Christ, the Righteous, from whom the water of life flow forever and ever.

Respectfully,

S. A. PARSONS, Chairman.

Received the report of the Committee on Home Missions.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS.

We, your Committee on Home Missions, beg leave to recommend that we support the Home Mission by beginning at home in trying to better support our pastors, giving them a better chance to prepare themselves for the work of the ministry. Respectfully submitted,

A. WHITE, Chairman.

Received and adopted the report on Deceased Members, as follows:

REQORT OF COMMITTEE ON DECEASED MEMBERS.

We, your Committee on Deceased Members, find since our last session the following deaths: H. P. Phillips, J. S. Vance, Lucinda A. Vines, W. M. Vines, Hosa Vines, Malind Batson, Johney Vines, W. J. White, Harriet Greer, John Hannah, Gilley Sanlin, all distinguished members of this Association. We sincerely mourn their absence, but we do not mourn as those that have no hope, for our loss is their gain. Therefore we are willing to submit to the will of God, but should admonish each other to run with patience the race that is before us, looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. We do truly simpathise with those bereaved, hoping, ere long, to meet them where parting is no more. Respectfully submitted,

G. B. VINES, Chairman.

On motion, the Association adjourned until Saturday morning, 9 o'clock.

THIRD DAY—SATURDAY, 9 O'CLOCK A. M.

The 4th chapter of James was read by the Moderator; Hymn No. 239 was sung and prayer offered by the Moderator.

W. A. Murry, Chairman of the Committee on Devotion, reported preaching at 11 o'clock by Elder A. White.

Received and adopted the report of the Committee on Temperance, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

We, the Committee on Temperance, beg leave to report; First, the churches of this Association are requested to use their influence against the great evil of intemperance, and withdraw from any brother that uses intoxicating liquors as a beverage. Second, we further recommend that the churches of this Association use their influence to stop the sale of intoxicating liquors in the bounds of Jefferson county. Third, we ask our beloved brethren to examine the word beverage, as it appears in this report. Fourth, we

understand that it cuts us off from dram-drinking which is incouraging to those that have formed the habit of dram-drinking. Respectfully submitted,

S. A. PARSONS, Chairman.

Received and adopted the report of the Committee on Education, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

We, your Committee on Education, beg leave to report; First, we recommend that this Association begin working at home to establish a permanent school in her bounds for the purpose of educating our children and our ministers who may desire to educate themselves in order to advance God's cause and Kingdom here on earth. Second, we further recommend that there be a permanent school established by this Association, and that said school be located at Oak Grove Church, as we deem it nearest the center of the Association, also a suitable and healthy location.

Respectfully submitted,

H. P. HUDSON, Chairman.

On motion, the Association adjourned until 1 o'clock for dinner.

THIRD DAY—EVENING SESSION, 1 O'CLOCK.

The body was called to order by singing Hymn No. 152; prayer offered by Elder J. N. McFalls.

W. A. Murry, Chairman of the Committee on Devotion, reported preaching at candle-light by J. I. Gilbert, followed by G. B. Vines.

The following named brethren were appointed trustees of the school located at Oak Grove Church, to wit: P. A. Wilkey, J. M. Hyche, M. M. Guin, J. M. Knight, C. B. Guin, T. M. Parsons, Andy Gilbert and W. A. Murry.

Received and adopted the report of the Committee on Finance, as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

We, your Committee on Finance, beg leave to report that we have carefully examined all the letters from the churches and find:

For Association purposes,.....$10.75
For Minutes,..... 17.75

Respectfully submitted,
A. J. BATSON, Chairman.

Received the Treasurer's report as follows:

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Received of the Finance Committee, $25.75. Paid the Clerk $8.00 for his services, and $17.75 for Minute purposes. M. M. GUIN, Treasurer.

On motion, Brother M. M. Guin was appointed Treasurer for the next Associational year.

Resolved, That the Clerk be allowed $10.75 for his services, and have as many minutes printed as the balance of the money will get.

Resolved, That this body tender their thanks to this church, and community in general, for the hospitable way in which they have received and entertained this body during the present session. May the Lord ever be with them

Read and corrected the minutes, called the roll and marked the absentees.

Resolved, That this body adjourn to meet with Mount Ida Church, Walker county, ten miles north-west of Toadvine, on Saturday before the third Sabbath in October, 1886.

J. M. HYCHE, Clerk. J. I. GILBERT, Moderator.

Resolved, That the following article be adopted by this Association:

STATE OF ALABAMA—JEFFERSON COUNTY.

To all whom these presents may come—Greeting: Whereas, there is an imposter sprung out of Mud Creek Baptist Association, by the name of John H. Moody, an ordained Baptist Minister of the Gospel, described as follows: said Moody is about five feet and eight inches high, dark complexion, large eyes, and full of jesting. We suppose that he is in possession of one of the Minutes of the Mud Creek Baptist Association, said J. H. Moody, Moderator, and also a letter from Oak Grove Church, and a letter from Hopewell Church. We think evidences given are suffieient to

detect him. Therefore, feeling it to be our duty, in consequence of the said Moody's unchristian conduct in many respects, too tedious to mention, we make this publication for the cause of Christ's Kingdom here on earth.

We recommend that a copy of the within be sent to the *Alabama Baptist* and the *Tennessee Baptist* for publication.

On motion, the above article was unanimously adopted.

Corresponding Letter.

DEAR BRETHREN: Through the blessings of our Heavenly Father we have been permitted to see the close of our Fourteenth Annual Session of the Mud Creek Baptist Association, and we trust that all we have done will be to the advancement of our Redeemer's Kingdom and for the promotion of His cause here on earth. We petition with this letter, by the hand of our appointed delegates, correspondence with you. Our Fourteenth Session was one of peace, harmony and love. We ask an interest in your prayers. May the great Head of the Church preside over your and our Association and lead us all in the way of truth, and may the Union of the Spirit abound is our prayer for Christ's sake. Our next session will be held with Mount Ida Church, Walker county, on Saturday before the third Sabbath in October, 1886.

J. M. HYCHE, Clerk.

The Missionary Sermon was preached Sunday at 11 a. m. by Rev. A. White.

STATISTIC OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	POST-OFFICE.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Baptised	Rec'd by Letter	Dis'md by Letter	Expelled	Restored	Dead	Females	Males	Total Number	Minute Funds		Association Funds	
Antioch	J. F. Price	Hayes	W. J. Birchfield*, B. Hyde*, Jesse Barger*, W. M. Seales*, Everett Thomson*	...	...	...	...	..	...	29	15	44	1	00	65	
Blackwarrior	W. Patton		W. Patton, A. Gilbert, W. N. Gilbert. R. D. Narramore*, J. A. Mulinac*	...	..	...	...	...	..	13	10	23	1	00	50	
Big Creek	J. A. Markham	Toadvine	Levy Johnson*, C. Johnson*, Irwin Gilmore*, J. D. Salter	...	2	4	4	...	...	19	11	30	25		25	
Blue Creek	B. J. Herring	McCalla	N. J. Armstrong*, Simon Sellers*, R. J. Sellers	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	8	29	50		25	
Davis' Creek	J. F. Price	Hayes	Wm. Hannah*, E. D, Kenedy*, James Patterson*, D. Sanlin, J. Headrix	6	...	5	2	...	...	21	12	33	25		50	
Friendship	J. F. Price	Hayes	Thos. Birenfield, Joseph Hosmer*, A. J. Clark*, T. J. Hogg, I. Botner*	1	1	3	2	1	...	25	10	35	75		25	
Free-Will		Brownsville	Not Represented	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		..	
Hopewell	A. White	Toadvine	G. N. Miller, W. M. Vines, Thomas Sanford, J. M. Snow, A. White	...	1	...	9	...	2	...	...	44	75		50	
Henry-Smith	J. M. Huey	Brownsville	E. D. Hicks*, J. M. Hicks, James Woodards. J. C. Collier, A. J. Nickols*	1	3	...	...	...	...	14	9	23	50		50	
Liberty	A. White	Short Creek	R. F. Vines, N. S. Meeks, N. J. Vines*, W. P. Salter, G. B. Vines	...	2	...	...	...	3	...	...	73	1	30	1	00
Mud Creek	J. N. McFall	Scrap	W. C. Howton, S. A. Parsons, C. B. Rogers*. Isham Hammons, J. A. Markham	...	...	5	4	...	1	39	31	70	1	50	50	
Mount Ida	A. White	Toadvine	H. A. Roberts, A. P. Waldrop*. W. A. Robertson*, A. J. Perry. J. H. Knight	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	1	00	1	00
New Providence	J. I. Gilbert	Hayes	B. S. Thomson*, C. B. Gwin, T. B. Burton*, R. B. Patton, W. R. Patton	2	17	...	...	1	1	19	14	33	1	50	50	
Oak Grove	A. White	Toadvine	P. A. Wilkey, J. M. Knight, A. J. Battoon, S. F. Wilkey, W. H. Right	2	2	4	3	...	1	32	23	55	1	25	85	
Prudes Creek	J. F. Price	Hayes	J. I. Gilbert, W. I Gilbert, W. A. Right, O. G. Birchfield*, R. P. Stanly	5	...	5	1	1	...	46	40	86	1	50	50	
Pleasant Grove	W. W. Martin	Wetona	W. A Murry, E. D. Herring, J. R. Moses, A. J. Gibbs*, A. J. Flemmins	23	11	...	2	2	...	32	29	61	1	50	55	
Pleasant Ridge	Wm. Hannah	Hayes	John Wallace, Samuel Walbs, S. S. Barges	2	...	...	...	...	..	7	5	12	50		50	
Rock Creek		Toadvine	Thomas Reeves, J. H. Waldrop, J. R. Reeves, J. J. Waldrop, J. M. Waldrop.	...	...	...	2	1	...	2	29	31	1	00	30	
Sardis		Jonesboro	J. E. Parsons*, J. M. Kent*, R. E. W. Thompson*, George Cox*, J. W. Parsons.	2	...	5	2	...	...	5	12	17	50		50	
Smithville		Toadvine	J. M. Hyche, M. B. Roberts, Wm. Fields*, A. J. Smith*, F. C. Allman	...	...	2	...	...	...	11	16	27	1	25	1	25

*Absentees.